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~~The~~ The publication of this issue commenced
1950.

The China Mail

No Fire Insurance has been effected
 SIEGISMUND &
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 Hongkong, May 17, 1886.

Per Annum, . . . \$12.00, postage,
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0.50. Bernado and child, Mr and Mrs Mercer, Capt. and Mrs McCarthy and child, Mr E. W. George, and Dr Cure; for Yokohama, 11.30 A.M., after which hour they remained on Board with the crew.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY
Hongkong, January 7, 1898.

45 again suggest that the Chamber of Commerce in the Far East and at

New Piano Repairing Machinery arrived
W. Robinson and Company.

gave rise. Here is a curious extract from the *Letsa Roll* :—

‘ That whereas there has been heretofore great disorder in our toone, and the inhabitants thereof greatly wronged and charged with makings and amending of their glasse windows broken yearle and spoiled by a company of lewd and disordered persons using that unlawful exercise of playing with the foteball . . . breaking glasse at their pleasures and other great enormities . . . therefore no persons shall use the football in any street.’

In 1861 Joseph Strutt, the great historian of English sports, describes the game as a very dangerous one. 'When the exercise becomes exceedingly violent the players kick each other's shins without the least ceremony, and some of them are overthrown at the hazard of life and limb.' Indeed, Glover, in his 'History of Derbyshire,' tells us that a Frenchman passing through Derby remarked that if Englishmen called this playing it would be impos-

able to say that they would all fighting, and that they would all be killed. The boys of the Rugby School took up the same, and a more general sportsmanlike feeling was soon apparently amongst the players. There was much to be said beside mere brutality in the football that was played. Mr Hughes so graphically described the boys' fight with Ebenezer Schooldays. What boy is there who has not seen this fight, and who has not pleasure as he reads of the prowess of the Pater Brooke, the coolness of Crab, and the pluck of Little Ears? To the Rugby School we owe the Rugby game, for though the football flourished at Eton, Harrow, and Rugby, it was at Rugby that the game first took distinct species which never spread outside the walls, within which, with true schoolboy love of tradition, it still is played in almost unchanged. Rugbians carried the game to the universities, and from them it has spread to the world. Mr Hughes, the Headmaster of Loretto writes, "The school boys are the nucleus of the game; it is begun with them; it is perhaps, under the most modern circumstances, their best instruction in the art of 'education' in the true and widest sense of the word. It is the only game in which of any school making a good stand-up play fight against the soft and self-indulgent gentility of boys of living in which town boys, at all the events of the richer classes, are usually brought up, in which football is not a game of the rich. It is the only game in which the Rugby schools are all Rugby. Rugby, I hope, we shall remain."

In the evening of the 26th January, 1891, the

1971, a day ever memorable to football players, a party of thirty-two members of London and suburban clubs following each other to the assembly, and, as a result of due deliberation founded the Rugby Football Union. From that time onward the Union has steadily progressed. Much opposition was encountered, for many people thought the game nothing more than, as Mr Marshall put it, "a mixture of kicking, scrapping, gouging, and blinding." But football has now won an assured position, with ever-increasing popularity. The dangers which in future will threaten it will come, Mr Marshall prophesies, from the ever-growing "militancy" and the growth of professionalism. Mr Rowland Hill speaks strongly against its introduction. He says:

"Firstly, I believe that it is injurious to the individual who becomes a professional footballer, for he is not paid sufficiently remunerative to play football than to follow his regular occupation.

Again a time his play falls off, and he has to go. He has got out of the way of our readers and lost valuable time in which he should have been learning a trade. He thus recognizes that football has snatched him from other work.

Again later on—

"I believe professionalism would increase rough play. The necessity to win will be felt more. The paid player, than by the amateur, needs the necessity to win, and the determination to win at all hazards."

Mr Bodd points out that the professional is usually imported from other countries and thus destroys the local talent for the game. Further, he denigrates his colours of his country, and thus does not do his country a sound thing about them, and we cannot but agree with the writers in their view of the probable effect of professionalism on this great English sport. To the game that cannot be pursued for financial excitement and amusement and be maintained by the same means, we have no objection.

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